

A NEW SPECIES OF *SECAMONE* (ASCLEPIADACEAE) FROM SOUTH ANDAMANS (INDIA)¹A. K. GOEL² AND M. K. VASUDEVA RAO³*(With a text-figure)*

The genus *Secamone* R. Br. is recorded for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands with a new species *S. andamanica* sp. nov. from South Andamans.

INTRODUCTION

During the course of explorations in South Andamans for the collection of plants for biological screening programme, a rare specimen of family Asclepiadaceae was collected. Study of the available literature and herbarium sheets indicates that it is an undescribed species belonging to the genus *Secamone* R. Br.

***Secamone andamanica* sp. nov.** (Fig. 1)

Species distincta, a *S. emetica* (Retz.) R. Br. ex Schultes differt caulibus junioribus prope nodos brunneo-pilosis-glabrescentibus; corona staminali segmentis 5 incurvis subulatis liberis; antherae connectivo producto in appendice membranacea, subquadrata fimbriata. — Holotypus lectus a *A. K. Goel* sub numero 16604 A, ad locum Jolly Boys Island, South Andaman, die October 24, 1986, positi in herbario CDRI, Lucknow.

***Secamone andamanica* sp. nov.** (Fig. 1)

A distinct species differing from the common coastal, rarely inland, scrub *Secamone emetica* (Retz.) R. Br. ex Schultes of Peninsular India and Sri Lanka in the following characters: Young stems near nodes glabrescent-brown

hairy. Leaves broadly lanceolate, gradually acuminate. Staminal corona of 5, free, subulate, incurved segments; anther connective produced into a membranous, subquadrate, fimbriate appendage. — Holotype: *A. K. Goel* 16604 A- (CDRI), Jolly Boys Island, South Andamans.

Straggling laticiferous shrubs, 1.5-2.0 m tall. Stems brownish; upper branchlets green with swollen nodes, glabrescent-brown hairy on the axil and for some length on either side of nodes. Leaves opposite, lanceolate to ovate lanceolate; lamina 3.5-7.0 × 1.0-2.8 cm, thinly coriaceous, dark green on adaxial surface, glaucous green on abaxial surface, margin entire, sometimes distantly obscurely serrulate in anterior portion, 11-14 nerved; midrib and primary nerves sunken above, flattened below, nerves looped and joining below margins; base acute to cuneate; apex gradually acuminate; petioles 4.0-7.0 mm long, terete with narrow groove on upper surface with a few brown hairs at base. Inflorescence a dichasial cyme, shorter than leaves, 1.5-2.5 cm long, glabrescent-puberulous. Bracts 0.75-1.0 × 0.5 mm, triangular, yellowish green. Pedicels 3.0-5.0 mm long, puberulous. Flowers greenish yellow, 2.5-3.0 mm across; sepals 5 parted, imbricate, 1.0 × 0.75 mm, oval, puberulous outside, obtuse at apex, ciliolate at margins, without any gland inside at base. Corolla rotate, tube short, 0.5 × 0.9 mm, abruptly widened to lobes; corolla lobes 1.3-1.5 mm long, twisted to left in bud, later erect, oblong, obtuse, sometimes notched at apex with distinct

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Fig. 1. *Secamone andamanica* sp. nov.

1. Habit; 2. Flower; 3. Sepal in dorsal and ventral view; 4. Petal in ventral and dorsal view; 5. Bract in side view; 6. Staminal column; 7. Anther appendage; 8. Pollinia with corpusculum; 9. Gynoecium. (A. K. Goel 16604).

concave groove flanked by thick calli at base on inner side. Staminal column c. 1.0 mm long, completely attached to the ovary; staminal corona of 5 lobes, very small, subulate, broader and attached just below the middle in between stamens, free, incurved above; anthers completely united, anther appendage subquadrate, fimbriate; pollinia 4, oval transparent, shining, attached to viscid somewhat oval corpusculum with 2 very small, thick filaments. Stigma exceeding the stamens, bilobed; style simple; ovary bicarpellate.

Habitat: Rare near sea shore amidst black boulders associated with *Colubrina asiatica*.

Flowering: September-October.

Distribution: INDIA: South Andamans.

Exsiccata: INDIA: South Andamans; Jolly Boys Island, October, 24, 1986; A. K. Goel 16604 A — Holotype (CDRI); A. K. Goel 16604 B — Isotype (PBL); A. K. Goel 16604 C, D. — Isotypes (CDRI).

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***BOTHRIOCHLOA PARAMESWARANII* — A NEW SPECIES OF
POACEAE FROM KERALA, INDIA¹**

P. V. SREEKUMAR, C. P. MALATHI AND V. J. NAIR²

(With a text-figure)

***Bothriochloa parameswaranii* sp. nov.**
(Fig. 1)

Bothriochloa kuntzeana (Hack.) Henr. affinis, sed culmis brevioribus (usque ad 30 cm), gracilibus; foliis brevioribus, angustioribus (usque ad 3 mm latis); nodis glabris; spiculis sessilibus, brevioribus (usque ad 4 mm); foveis spicularum pedicellarum 1-4, vadosis; antheris brevioribus (usque ad 1.25 mm), differt.

Perennials. Culms 10-30 cm high, erect or geniculate; nodes glabrous. Leaves lanceolate, 2-10 × 0.2-0.3 cm, base rounded, glabrous or shortly villous, midrib prominent. Ligules ovate, acute, 1-2 mm, membranous. Racemes 2-4, digitate or subdigitate, each 2-4 cm long, purplish; joints 2-3 mm long, linear, ciliate. Sessile spikelets oblong or elliptic, 3-4 mm long, callus bearded; lower glume oblong, 3-3.5 ×

1-1.25 mm, acute or subacute, chartaceous, flat or with a shallow depression, faintly 7-9-nerved, keels pectinate towards apex, margins hyaline, ciliate; upper glume ovate-lanceolate, 3-3.5 × 1-1.5 mm, chartaceous, 3-5-nerved, villous in the upper half, margins hyaline; lower floret empty; upper floret bisexual; first lemma ovate-oblong, 2.5-3 × 1-1.25 mm, rounded at apex, delicate, hyaline, faintly 3-5-nerved; palea absent; second lemma stipitate, 1-2 mm long, awn 10-15 mm long, column 6-8 mm, chestnut-brown; palea absent; stamens 3, anthers 1-1.25 mm; ovary oblong, 0.5-0.75 mm, styles c. 1 mm long, stigmas 1-1.5 mm, feathery. Pedicelled spikelets oblong, lanceolate, 3-4 mm long; pedicels 2-3 mm long, villous; lower glume oblong-lanceolate, 3-4 × 1 mm, chartaceous, 11-15-nerved, with 1-4 shallow pits, keels shortly pectinate; upper glume and lower floret similar to those of sessile spikelet; upper floret male or empty;

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